

Message Text

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PAGE 01 TORONT 02550 051842Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 DOTE-00 AID-05 CIAE-00 COME-00
EB-08 FRB-01 INR-07 NSAE-00 USIA-15 TRSE-00
XMB-04 OPIC-06 SP-02 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 PA-02
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-----065744 051851Z /45

R 051328Z OCT 77
FM AMCONSUL TORONTO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6382
INFO AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

UNCLAS TORONTO 2550

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ELTN, TINT, SOPN, CA
SUBJ: PROPOSED TORONTO TRANSIT HIKE BLAMED ON TRUDEAU

1. THE COUNCIL OF METROPOLITAN TORONTO IS CURRENTLY CONSIDERING A RECOMMENDATION BY THE TORONTO TRANSIT COMMISSION (TTC) TO RAISE TRANSIT FARES ON THE T.T.C.'S EXTENSIVE URBAN NETWORK. THE INCREASES, PROPOSED EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 1978, WILL ALLEGEDLY PROVIDE ANOTHER 9 MILLION DOLLARS NEXT YEAR. THE T.T.C. RECEIVES 15 PER CENT OF IT'S ANNUAL EXPENSES FROM THE PROVINCE OF ONTARIO, 15 PER CENT FROM METROPOLITAN TORONTO AND 70 PER CENT FROM RIDER FARES.

2. IN DISCUSSING THE PROPOSED FARE INCREASES, JOHN KRUGER, CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER FOR METRO TORONTO, LAID THE BLAME SQUARELY ON PRIME MINISTER TRUDEAU'S DOORSTEP. "PRIME MINISTER TRUDEAU PROMISED IN THE LAST ELECTION TO CONTRIBUTE TO LARGE CITY TRANSIT CAPITOL COSTS. NOW THEY SAY THERE IS NO MONEY FOR IT," KRUGER WAS QUOTED AS SAYING. KRUGER NOTED THAT U.S. AND EUROPEAN GOVERNMENT'S ASSIST TRANSIT OPERATIONS AND TOLD NEWSPAPERS THAT THERE WOULD BE AN IMMEDIATE BENEFIT FOR T.T.C. RIDER IF TRUDEAU KEPT HIS PROMISE.

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3. COMMENT - THE FARE INCREASE ON THE T.T.C. IS AN ANNUAL RITE IN TORONTO BUT ONE WHICH IS SUBJECT TO INCREASING CRITICISM. T.T.C. STUDIES HAVE SHOWN THAT A LARGE BULK, IF NOT THE MAJORITY, OF CENTRAL CORE WORKERS USE PRIVATE TRANSPORTATION. T.T.C. STATISTICS DEMONSTRATE THAT THE TRANSIT AUTHORITY STILL

HAS TO RECOVER THE RIDERS LOST IN THE LAST FARE
INCREASE. T.T.C.'S RESPONSE TO CRITICISM OF THIS NATURE
IS THAT THE ONLY ALTERNATIVE WOULD BE TO INCREASE THE
ALREADY HEAVY BURDEN ON METRO PROPERTY OWNERS BECAUSE
OF THE INCREASED TAXATION THAT WOULD BE NECESSARY TO
PROVIDE ADDITIONAL SUBSIDY.
DIGGINS

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Message Attributes

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Sent Date: 05-Oct-1977 12:00:00 am
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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TAGS: ELTN, SOPN, CA, US, (TRUDEAU)
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